



1500 HAGYS FORD ROAD
PENN VALLEY, PA 19072-1195
SYNAGOGUE OFFICE: 610.667.5000
JANE FISHMAN GRINBERG RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: 610.664.5746
NOREEN COOK CENTER: 610.667.6534
FAX: 610.667.2032
E-MAIL: hzt@harziontemple.org
www.harziontemple.org

Important Information for Parents of Children in 6th Grade or Younger

Dear Parents,

We hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the start of the school year.

As we are all painfully aware synagogues have been the targets of two attacks in the United States within the last year. Around the world attacks have been even more prevalent. Here at Har Zion, we maintain a vigilant security presence throughout the year and all the more so during our busiest season – The High Holy Days. The concern for safety does not end at the entry to the building. Throughout this year, our security consultants have worked with us to maintain more up-to-date and detailed information about where any children are when they are in our care.

As we make our preparations for the children's activities for this year's High Holy Days, we have the safety and security of your child(ren) first and foremost in our thoughts. **With that in mind, please read this letter and take note of the changes in the way we will be welcoming children to Har Zion Temple for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this year.**

This year, we require all children who are attending and participating in youth programming (babysitting and youth activities) be signed in and out by an adult. We recognize that in the past children were encouraged to choose freely to join or leave programming as they saw fit. However, the determination of our community in response to safety and security questions is that we want to be more structured and accountable for the students entrusted to our care.

We kindly but firmly request your cooperation with us in this matter. There will be a poster in the school lobby that will identify where each age group is assigned to be throughout the day. If your children are in the NCCECE and will be in babysitting, you will bring them downstairs and register them there with our staff. If your children are in first grade through sixth grade and will be coming to junior congregation and the other programming, please accompany them to the second floor school hall. There you will find a staff member who will register them and help them get to the proper classroom. The same process must be followed when you wish to pick up your child(ren). We will not register or release any children without a responsible adult dropping off or picking them up.

There are also several Family Service options available and you are invited and encouraged to come with your child(ren) to these services. You may also have your child(ren) with you in the main service if that is your desire. Parents who choose these options remain responsible throughout the day for their child(ren) while they are in the Har Zion building.

Thank you for your cooperation in this, and we look forward to a meaningful and safe High Holy Day season filled with spiritual introspection, quality time with family, and reconnecting with our Har Zion Friends.

Rabbi Shawn SimonHazani
Director of Lifelong Learning